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ANNEX B TO SE-11

PROBABILITY OF A COMMUNIST ASSAULT ON JAPAN IN 1951 INDICATIONS OF SOVIET INTENTIONS WITH RESPECT TO JAPAN

1. Intelligence Reports of Soviet Intentions. Since the signing of Sino-Soviet alliance in February 1950, reports [redacted] have been received which state that Peiping and Moscow have decided to invade Japan in the event Japanese rearmament takes place.* More recently, since the Malik cease-fire statement, reports alleging the results of high-level Sino-Soviet discussions in Peiping have been received. Some of these reports, despite certain discrepancies, have been fairly consistent in stating that a primary objective of the cease-fire proposal was to gain time for Communist military preparations for further action, not only in Korea, but also against other targets in the Far East, including Japan. In these reports it is stated that if the Japanese Peace Treaty is signed, Japan will be attacked, or that Chinese Communist leaders believe that World War III will start in September in connection with the Japanese Peace Treaty negotiations. Coincidentally, there has been unusual agreement among otherwise unconfirmed reports from Indochina, Southeast China, Peiping, Japan, and Korea alleging that Communist units, facilities, or personnel in those areas have been ordered to be in a state of readiness in late summer. On the other hand, there have been numerous reports indicating that the Chinese Communists, at least, are serious in their efforts to end the fighting in the Far East. [redacted]

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* For a detailed analysis of these reports, see Watch Committee Report No. 53, dated 9 August 1951.

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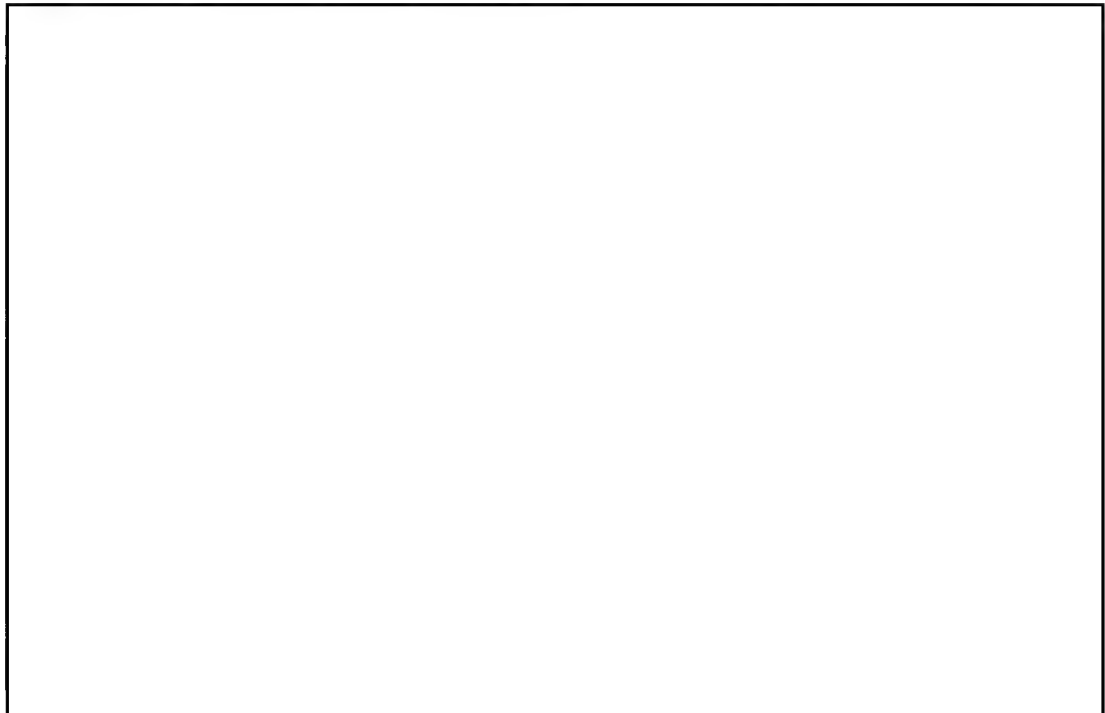


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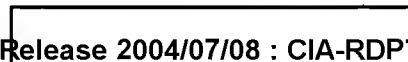
2. Military Indications.

(a) Ground Forces. One report in July stated that 20 new Soviet divisions were being activated in the Far East, with 10 already fully organized and equipped and two of them scheduled for early transfer to Sakhalin. An earlier report  also alleged that two Soviet divisions moved to Sakhalin before the end of June 1951. These reports are not believed reliable, however, and there has been no further indication from any source of a further Soviet troop build-up in the Far East, recent shifts in the location of major units, or of the mustering of ground forces in embarkation areas preliminary to amphibious operations.

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4. Propaganda. Soviet propaganda continues to re-affirm Communist opposition to the proposed US-UK draft of the Japanese Peace Treaty. Pravda recently repeated the Communist theme that "everyone to whom peace is dear will reject the Japanese treaty draft as a threat to peace in the Far East." There is no suggestion in Soviet propaganda of an intent to invade Japan in the near future, however, and considerable emphasis is being given to the theme that a "Big Five Pact" to settle questions of German and Japanese rearmament should follow the conclusion of a Korean cease-fire.

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